

in recent years. In his present volume he discusses the ideas which have given birth to the movement, and which still correct and inspire it. His fundamental position is that of the pragmatist. As such, he has a horror of logical systems and general principles, whatever their nature. The "State Socialism" of Mr. Ramsay Macdonald is a mere substitution of the bureaucrat for the capitalist. Under its regime individuality must be subordinated to the State. The tyranny of the general will is not less abhorrent than the tyranny of the strong man. Socialism for Mr. Walling is only justified in so far as it provides freedom for individual development. He is impatient of the sociologist who views the State as an organism the cells in which are individual men and women, as he is intolerant of the historian and the evolutionist who demands aeons of time for effective social progress. History itself has few lessons to teach us—ancient history none, but the "class system" imposes it upon our educational system because it tends to perpetuate an old and effete social organisation. Eugenics is based on a pitiful fallacy, and the biologist is no guide to the social reformer.

Mr. Walling finds his choicest spirits in the persons of Nietzsche, Max Stirner, and Ellen Key. In their writings the individual comes to his own, and the state in which their ideas are most nearly realised is the most ideal democracy. Education as conceived by Dewey and (for small children) Montessori is the type which the Socialism of Mr. Walling demands.

Such is the current of thought upon which Mr. Walling bases his hopes for the future. The State Socialism as advocated by the Chairman of the English Labour Party in the House of Commons may come first, but it can only be a preliminary to the freedom in which alone the individual can flourish. J. A. GREEN (the University of Sheffield).

Elderton, E. M.; Barrington, Amy; Jones, H. Gertrude; Lamotte, Edith M.M. de G.; Laski, H. J.; Pearson, Karl. *On the Correlation of Fertility with Social Value. A Co-operative Study.* Eugenics Laboratory Memoirs, XVIII. London. Dulau and Co.; 1913; price 6s. net; pp. 72.

FOR "fertility" read "size of family," and for "social value" read "amount of weekly wages," and the title of this memoir will give a fairly accurate description of its contents. Even when simplified in this way the problem remains a complicated one, since both the size of the family and the amount of the wages are directly influenced by the age of the father—facts which must be allowed for if an attempt is made to determine whether a man earning high wages is likely to have a larger or a smaller family than one earning less. The principal method adopted by the authors is to calculate three pairs of correlation co-efficients (1) between age of parents and size of family; (2) between age of parents and wages; (3) between wages and size of family. Then by the use of the method of partial correlations an attempt is made to find the degree of interdependence between wages and size of family undisturbed by the influence of parental age. The results show that when this procedure is adopted there remains a slight negative correlation between wages and size of family. That is to say, workmen earning high wages appear to have slightly smaller families than those earning low.

In emphasizing the importance of the question studied, the authors enunciate the following statements of what they consider to be the "sole conditions under which national progress can be assured": (i.) wages ought to be directly proportional to social value as measured by physique and ability; (ii.) the size of the family ought to be proportional on the average to wages. If the conditions laid down in the former statement were fulfilled the results arrived at in the paper under review would be of a very disquieting kind. That they are to some extent fulfilled can well be argued, but to what extent remains to be determined—a work of much urgency and importance.

EDGAR SCHUSTER.